

NEWS RELEASE

Judd Gregg

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**SENATOR GREGG ANNOUNCES SUPPORT FOR MEASURE
TO PROTECT VETERANS' MEMORIALS FROM CRIMINAL ACTS**
Bill would also allow states to post guide signs on federal highways to veterans cemeteries

WASHINGTON -- U.S. Senator Judd Gregg (R-NH) today announced that he is co-sponsoring a measure, authored by Senator Ben Nighthorse Campbell (R-CO), that would make the destruction of veterans' memorials, such as statues, plaques or monuments, a federal crime. The Veterans' Memorial Preservation and Recognition Act of 2003 also permits states to place supplemental guide signs to veterans' cemeteries on federal highways. Currently, there is no comprehensive federal law to protect memorials dedicated to American veterans. Violators of the proposed law would be fined or jailed, and would also be subject to a civil penalty equal to the cost of repairing the damage they have caused. The measure is being supported by AMVETS, the American Legion and the Paralyzed Veterans of America.

Senator Gregg stated, "This is an important measure to ensure the sanctity of memorials dedicated to those men and women who fought defending our way of life. This bill will restore the dignity to memorials that are vandalized and honors the commitment and sacrifice of the men and women of America's armed forces. I am pleased to lend it my full support."

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